

To: Ackerman, Joyce[Ackerman.Joyce@epa.gov]
From: Merritt, Steven
Sent: Sat 8/8/2015 10:45:59 PM
Subject: Fwd: GK 7 Level operations

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Steven B. Merritt, CIH

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8

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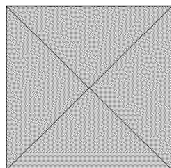
Denver, CO 80202-1129

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Sent from my iPhone...

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Way, Steven" <way.steven@epa.gov>
Date: August 8, 2015 at 4:19:10 PM MDT
To: "Merritt, Steven" <Merritt.Steven@epa.gov>, "Dhieaux, Joyel" <Dhieaux.Joyel@epa.gov>
Subject: GK 7 Level operations

Here are the facts as know based on when I was there/instructions left and then later accounts when I was not there 8/3 week. So some points may need verification.

The GK operations during the period from July 27 thru August 5 were making the preparations to remove the blockage in the tunnel. The necessary piping and pumping equipment and configuration were being arranged. This included the plan to insert a slotted steel pipe (stinger) into the blockage above the level of the former roof (back) of the adit.

The flow from adit continued to discharge at approximately 75 gpm through the debris at an estimated elevation of approximately 6 feet above the level of adit floor. The was reportedly a 10 foot high tunnel. There was no indication of pressure behind the blockage.

Also, an initial evaluation of the slope above adit roof was being conducted with the excavator between two bedrock outcroppings in an attempt to locate the solid ground/bedrock.

The EPA, DRMS, START, and ERRS personnel were evaluating the conditions and determined it to appropriate to attempt additional investigation of the slope 10 to 15 feet above the blockage.

The appearance of seepage some 5 to 10 feet above the roof of the adit was the first indication of water well above the middle of the adit. Moments later the blockage gave way and the impounded water released.

Sent from my iPhone